

REVISIONS TO CLAIMS

1. (cancelled)

2. (currently amended) ~~A lighting unit as claimed in claim 1~~ A lighting unit having a discharge lamp (1), a lamp driver (2), a cooling device (3), at least one device (33; 34) for detecting at least one predetermined operating parameter of the discharge lamp (1), together with a control unit (23) for controlling the lamp driver (2) and/or the cooling device (3) at least during switching on and/or off of the lighting unit in such a way that there is no excursion from a predetermined range of the at least one operating parameter.

_____ wherein the detecting device comprises a sensor (33; 34) for detecting the operating parameter in the form of the temperature of a wall of the discharge vessel (11) of the discharge lamp (1).

3. (currently amended) ~~A lighting unit having a discharge lamp (1), a lamp driver (2), a cooling device (3), at least one device (33; 34) for detecting at least one predetermined operating parameter of the discharge lamp (1), together with a control unit (23) for controlling the lamp driver (2) and/or the cooling device (3) at least during switching on and/or off of the lighting unit in such a way that there is no excursion from a predetermined range of the at least one operating parameter~~ A lighting unit as claimed in claim 1,

_____ wherein one of the operating parameters of the discharge lamp (1) is the lamp current and/or the lamp power.

REVISIONS TO CLAIMS

1 4. (currently amended) A lighting unit having a discharge lamp (1), a lamp driver (2), a cooling
2 device (3), at least one device (33; 34) for detecting at least one predetermined operating
3 parameter of the discharge lamp (1), together with a control unit (23) for controlling the lamp
4 driver (2) and/or the cooling device (3) at least during switching on and/or off of the lighting unit
5 in such a way that there is no excursion from a predetermined range of the at least one operating
6 parameter A lighting unit as claimed in claim 1,
7 _____ wherein the range of the at least one operating parameter is so rated that the
8 mechanical stresses in the wall of the discharge vessel (11) of the lamp (1), caused by
9 temperature fluctuations in the discharge lamp (1), are at least substantially reduced.

5. (cancelled)

1 6. (currently amended) A lighting unit having a discharge lamp (1), a lamp driver (2), a cooling
2 device (3), at least one device (33; 34) for detecting at least one predetermined operating
3 parameter of the discharge lamp (1), together with a control unit (23) for controlling the lamp
4 driver (2) and/or the cooling device (3) at least during switching on and/or off of the lighting unit
5 in such a way that there is no excursion from a predetermined range of the at least one operating
6 parameter A lighting unit as claimed in claim 1,
7 wherein a sensor (33), connected to the control unit (23), is provided for detecting
8 the power of the cooling device (3) in the form of the velocity or the pressure or the volume of a
9 gas stream directed onto the discharge lamp (1), the lamp driver (2) and/or the cooling device (3)
10 being controllable by the control unit (23) as a function of the output signal of the sensor (33).

REVISIONS TO CLAIMS

1 7. (currently amended) A lighting unit having a discharge lamp (1), a lamp driver (2), a cooling
2 device (3), at least one device (33; 34) for detecting at least one predetermined operating
3 parameter of the discharge lamp (1), together with a control unit (23) for controlling the lamp
4 driver (2) and/or the cooling device (3) at least during switching on and/or off of the lighting unit
5 in such a way that there is no excursion from a predetermined range of the at least one operating
6 parameter~~A lighting unit as claimed in claim 1,~~
7 _____ wherein the control unit (23) comprises a microprocessor unit and a memory for
8 storing at least one switching schedule according to which the lamp driver (2) and/or the cooling
9 device (3) can be controlled.

1 8. A lighting unit as claimed in claim 7, wherein a switching schedule can be
2 activated by actuation of an off switch of the lighting unit, according to which schedule the lamp
3 driver (2) and the cooling device (3) are adjusted down alternately and/or stepwise.

9 -11 (cancelled)

1 12. (new) A lamp unit comprising:
2 ○ at least one lamp driver;
3 ○ at least one cooling device;
4 ○ a sensor for detecting at least one parameter of a lamp associated with the unit; and

REVISIONS TO CLAIMS

- 5 ○ at least one controller for controlling and coordinating both the lamp driver and the
6 cooling device together to cause the parameter to stay within a predetermined range.

13. (new) The unit of claim 12, wherein the controller includes means for controlling the cooling device to achieve at least four distinct operating states.

14. (new) The unit of claim 12, wherein the unit comprises a sensor for detecting at least one operating condition of the cooling device operates responsive to the at least one operating condition of the cooling device in addition to the at least one parameter of the lamp.

15. (new) The unit of claim 14, wherein the operating parameter of the cooling device comprises velocity, pressure and/or volume of a gas stream directed onto the lamp.

16. (new) The unit of claim 12, wherein the unit comprises a discharge lamp and the parameter comprises a temperature of a wall of a discharge vessel of the discharge lamp.

17. (new) The unit of claim 12, wherein the controller comprises means for storing at least one switching schedule, the switching schedule comprising predetermined stepwise adjustments to control parameters of both the lamp driver and the cooling device.

REVISIONS TO CLAIMS

18. (new) The unit of claim 17, wherein the unit comprises a discharge lamp including a discharge vessel and the predetermined stepwise adjustments are predetermined to minimize mechanical stress of a wall of the discharge vessel.

19. (new) The unit of claim 17, wherein the controller is adapted to implement the schedule stepwise by alternately adjusting the lamp driver and the cooling device.

20. (new) the unit of claim nineteen, where in the controller is adapted to implement the schedule responsive to switching-off the lamp to avoid mechanical stress to the lamp.

21. (new) The unit of claim 12, wherein the unit comprises a lamp and the least one operating parameter comprises at least one electrical parameter of the lamp.

22. (new) The unit of claim 20, wherein the electrical parameter comprises current and/or voltage supplied to the lamp.

23. (new) the unit of claim 22,

- further comprising a sensor for sensing an operating parameter of the cooling device,
- wherein the at least one operating parameter also comprises a temperature of a the lamp,
- and

REVISIONS TO CLAIMS

- wherein the controller coordinates the lamp driver and the cooling device responsive to the electrical parameter of the lamp, the operating parameter of the cooling device, and the temperature of the lamp.

24. (new) The unit of claim 12, wherein the unit comprises a discharge lamp.

- 1 25. (new) A control unit for protecting a discharge lamp from mechanical stress, the control unit
- 2 comprising
- 3 ○ means for communicating with a lamp driver;
 - 4 ○ means for communicating with a cooling device;
 - 5 ○ means for sensing a temperature of a wall of a discharge vessel of the discharge
 - 6 lamp; and
 - 7 ○ means for coordinating the lamp driver and cooling device together to achieve a
 - 8 desired range for the temperature at the wall of the discharge lamp.